



A. Grauence  
#91B  
8.15.02

PATENT  
Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 05552.1442

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
Ralf OTTO et al. ) Group Art Unit: 1852 ✓  
Application No.: 09/551,581 ✓ ) Examiner: Patricia K. Bex ✓  
Filed: April 18, 2000 ✓ )  
For: CLOSURE APPLIANCE FOR ✓ )  
REAGENT CONTAINERS ✓ )

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

AMENDMENT

In reply to the Office Action dated February 8, 2002, the period for reply having been extended for three (3) months by a request for extension and fee payment filed concurrently herewith, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 7-11 and add new claims 14 and 15 as follows:

7. (Amended) An appliance for opening and closing reagent container stoppers in partially or fully automatic analysis apparatus, comprising:  
a plunger for engaging and releasing a catch on a reagent container stopper to be opened or closed, the plunger moveable between an at rest position and a working position;

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